## Chapter 10

## **Learning in the 21st Century**

## Chapter at a Glance

### 21st Century Skills Defined

Partnership for 21st Century Skills
Committee on Defining Deeper Learning and 21st Century Skills
CCSSO EdSteps Initiative and Asia Society Partnership for
Global Learning

## 21st Century Skills and the Standards

Critical Thinking Skills Communication and Collaboration Skills Creativity and Innovation Skills

Global Awareness and Competence

Technology Skills

**Understanding Multimedia Text** 

Using Software

Online Learning

**Technology and Assessment** 

Digital Citizenship

Home-School-Community Connections

# Instructional Practices for Developing 21st Century Learning

## **Equitable Access**

Technology

Accessibility for Students

### **Professional Learning and Teacher Support**

**Future Directions** 

**Works Cited** 

The development of 21st century skills is one of four overarching goals of ELA/literacy and ELD instruction set forth in this framework: Students develop the readiness for college, career, and civic life; attain the capacities of literate individuals; become broadly literate; and acquire the skills for living and learning in the 21st century. These goals are displayed in the outer ring of Figure 10.1. (See the Introduction to the Framework and Chapter 2.)

This chapter defines 21st century skills, describes their role in ELA/literacy and ELD programs, and presents instructional practices. It concludes with discussions of equitable access, professional learning and teacher support, and future directions. Several snapshots of practice are also provided.

Figure 10.1. Goals, Context, and Themes of the CA CCSS for ELA/Literacy and the CA ELD Standards



# 21st Century Skills Defined

All students need to acquire the cognitive as well as social skills and dispositions that will enable them to succeed in the dynamic, fast-paced, and complex world of the 21st century. Recognizing the challenges of the decades ahead, various education, business, and government groups identified sets of skills and dispositions deemed critical for the success of individuals in their pursuit of higher education and careers as well as for responsible citizenship—so called 21st century skills. Although several frameworks exist that identify 21st century skills, the ELA/ELD Framework draws on three. The first two—those developed by the Partnership for 21st Century and the National Research Council's Committee on Defining Deeper Learning and 21st Century Skills—are comprehensive. They are organized differently, but they have identified many of the same skills. The third—developed by the CCSSO and Asia Society

Partnership for Global Learning—focuses on one set of 21st century skills: global competencies.

# Partnership for 21st Century Skills

The Partnership for 21st Century Skills (P21) (<a href="http://www.p21.org/">http://www.p21.org/</a>) is a national organization of educational nonprofits, foundations, and businesses that advocates for 21st century readiness for all students. Formed in 2002, the organization developed a framework for 21st century learning that consists of student outcomes and systems of support, the latter of which addresses standards and assessments, curriculum and instruction, professional development, and learning environments. Student outcomes, presented in Figure 10.2, are organized into four categories: 1) core subjects (e.g., English, mathematics, science, social studies) and 21st century themes, 2) life and career skills, 3) learning and innovation skills, and 4) information, media, and technology skills. The California Department of Education joined the Partnership in 2013 and is integrating 21st century skills into all academic core content areas as well as career and technical education.

Figure 10.2. Student Outcomes Identified by the Partnership for 21st Century Skills (2011)

Core Subjects and 21st Century Interdisciplinary Themes	Life and Career Skills	Learning and Innovation Skills (The "4Cs")	Information, Media, and Technology Skills
<ul> <li>Themes include:</li> <li>Global awareness</li> <li>Financial, economic, business, and entrepreneurial literacy</li> <li>Civic literacy</li> <li>Health literacy</li> <li>Environmental literacy</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Flexibility and adaptability</li> <li>Initiative and self-direction</li> <li>Social and cross-cultural skills</li> <li>Productivity and accountability</li> <li>Leadership and responsibility</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Creativity and innovation</li> <li>Critical thinking and problem solving</li> <li>Communication and collaboration</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Information literacy</li> <li>Media literacy</li> <li>Information,         communications and         technology literacy</li> </ul>

# **Deeper Learning and 21st Century Skills**

The Committee on Defining Deeper Learning and 21st Century Skills, commissioned by the National Research Council, was charged with defining "the set of key skills that are referenced by the labels 'deeper learning,' '21st century skills,' 'college and career readiness,' 'student centered learning,' 'next generation learning,' 'new basic skills,' and 'higher order thinking'" (National Research Council 2012, 1). The committee organized the skills into three broad categories or domains of competence: (1) cognitive competencies, including cognitive processes and strategies, knowledge, and creativity; (2) intrapersonal competencies, including intellectual openness, work ethic/conscientiousness, and positive core self-evaluation; and (3) interpersonal competencies, including teamwork and collaboration and leadership. Figure 10.3 provides information on these clusters.

The Committee on Defining Deeper Learning and 21st Century Skills suggests that deeper learning is essential for developing 21st century skills. Deeper learning is defined as "the process through which an individual becomes capable of taking what was learned in one situation and applying it to new situations (i.e., transfer)" (National Research Council 2012, 5). The committee report states that transferable knowledge is the product of deeper learning and includes both knowledge of content and "knowledge of how, why, and when to apply this [content] knowledge" (6). In other words, students need to learn 21st century skills and learn how to apply them now and in the future. Likewise, educators need to learn how to encourage their students' development and strategic use of such skills.

Figure 10.3. Competencies Identified by the Committee on Defining Deeper Learning and 21st Century Skills (2012)

Cognitive Competencies	Intrapersonal Competencies	Interpersonal Competencies
Cognitive Processes and	Intellectual Openness	Teamwork and Collaboration
Strategies	Flexibility, adaptability, artistic	Communication, collaboration,
Critical thinking, problem solving,	and cultural appreciation,	teamwork, cooperation,
analysis, reasoning,	personal and social responsibility	coordination, interpersonal skills,
argumentation, interpretation,	(including cultural awareness and	empathy/perspective taking,
decision making, adaptive	competence), appreciation for	trust, service orientation, conflict
learning, executive function	diversity, continuous learning,	resolution, negotiation
Knowledge	intellectual interest and curiosity	Leadership
Information literacy (research	Work Ethic/Conscientiousness	Leadership, responsibility,
using evidence and recognizing	Initiative, self-direction,	assertive communication, self-
bias in sources); information and	responsibility, perseverance,	presentation, social influence
communications technology	productivity, grit, Type 1 self-	with others
literacy; oral and written	regulation (metacognitive skills,	
communication; active listening <sup>1</sup>	including forethought,	
Creativity	performance, and self-reflection),	
Creativity, innovation	professionalism/ethics, integrity,	
	citizenship, career orientation	
	Positive Core Self-Evaluation	
	Type 2 self-regulation (self-	
	monitoring, self-evaluation, self-	
	reinforcement) physical and	
	psychological health	

# CCSSO EdSteps Initiative and Asia Society Partnership for Global Learning

Both the Partnership for 21st Century Learning and the Committee on Defining Deeper Learning and 21st Century Skills include skills related to global or cultural awareness, appreciation of diversity, and collaboration with others. Along these lines,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> As noted throughout this framework, speaking and listening should be broadly interpreted. Speaking and listening should include students who are deaf and heard of hearing using American Sign Language (ASL) as their primary language. Students who are deaf and hard of hearing who do not use ASL as their primary language but use amplification, residual hearing, listening and spoken language, cued speech and sign supported speech, access general education curriculum with varying modes of communication.

recognizing that global competence is crucial for living and working in the global era of the 21st century, the Council for Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) in collaboration with the Asia Society Partnership for Global Learning commissioned a task force to identify the capacities of a globally competent student. Global competence is defined as "the capacity and disposition to understand and act on issues of global significance" (Mansilla and Jackson 2011, xiii). The task force determined that students who are globally competent can perform the following:

- Investigate the world beyond their immediate environment, framing significant problems and conducting well-crafted and age-appropriate research
- Recognize perspectives, others' and their own, articulating and explaining such perspectives thoughtfully and respectfully
- Communicate ideas effectively with diverse audiences, bridging geographic, linguistic, ideological, and cultural barriers
- Take action to improve conditions, viewing themselves as players in the world and participating reflectively

# 21st Century Skills and the Standards

Both the CA CCSS for ELA/Literacy and the CA ELD Standards were designed to support the development of broadly literate students who have the capacities of literate individuals necessary for success in college, career, and civic participation in today's world CDE 2013b, 6). (See Chapter 1 of this *ELA/ELD Framework*.)

Development of 21st century skills is crucial for the realization of this goal, and many 21st century skills are integrated into the CCR Anchor Standards, the CA CCSS for ELA/Literacy, and the CA ELD Standards. Thus, as teachers support students' achievement of the standards, they are at the same time supporting the development of many 21st century skills, and vice versa. Figure 10.4 displays the alignment between the capacities of literate individuals and a sampling of 21st century skills identified by the Partnership for 21st Century Skills (P21), the Committee on Defining Deeper Learning and 21st Century Skills (DL), and the CCSSO EdSteps Initiative and Asia Society Partnership for Global Learning (GL). The 21st century skills included in the figure are representative, not exhaustive.

Figure 10.4. Alignment Between the Capacities of Literate Individuals and 21st Century Skills Identified by the Partnership for 21st Century Skills (P21), Committee on Defining Deeper Learning and 21st Century Skills (DL), and the CCSSO EdSteps Initiative and Asia Society Partnership for Global Learning (GL)

Capacities of Literate Individuals	21st Century Skills
They demonstrate independence.	Self-direction (P21; DL)
	Metacognition (DL)
	Executive function (DL)
They build strong content knowledge.	Core subjects (P21)
	Knowledge (DL)
	Investigate the world (GL)
They respond to the varying demands of	Critical thinking and problem solving (P21)
audience, task, purpose, and discipline.	Perspective taking (DL)
	Communicate ideas (GL)
They comprehend as well as critique.	Critical thinking (P21; DL)
	Analysis (DL)
	Reasoning (DL)
They value evidence.	Informational literacy (P21)
	Reasoning (DL)
	Argumentation (DL)
They use technology and digital media	Information, media, and technology skills (P21)
strategically and capably.	Information and communications technology literacy
	(DL)
They come to understand other perspectives and	Global awareness (P21)
cultures.	Social and cross-cultural skills (P21)
	Cultural awareness and competence (DL)
	Appreciation for diversity (DL)
	Investigate the world (GL)
	Recognize perspectives(GL)

In the next sections of this chapter, five sets of 21st century skills and their relationship to the CA CCSS for ELA/Literacy and ELD Standards are highlighted. These include the critical thinking, communication and collaboration, creativity and innovation (the "4Cs"), and global competence and technology skills.

# **Critical Thinking Skills**

The need for students to think critically permeates the CA CCSS for ELA/Literacy and CA ELD Standards at all levels and across all strands. Fostering critical thinking by marrying ELA/literacy and 21st century skills supports the development of students' skills in literacy and responsible citizenship.

Critical thinking is among the capacities of literate individuals Specifically, the CA CCSS for ELA/Literacy state:

Students comprehend as well as critique.

"Students are engaged and open-minded—but discerning—readers and listeners. They work diligently to understand precisely what an author or speaker is saying, but they also question an author's or speaker's assumptions and premises and assess the veracity of claims and the soundness of reasoning. (CDE 2013b, 6. See also the Introduction to the Framework.)

Critical thinking is also one of learning and innovation skills (the "4Cs") identified by the Partnership for 21st Century Skills. (See Figure 10.2 in this chapter.) Figure 10.5 displays the text from the Partnership of 21st Century Skills regarding critical thinking, which, the Partnership argues, involves problem solving.

Figure 10.5. Text About Critical Thinking from the Partnership for 21st Century Skills

### **Critical Thinking and Problem Solving**

#### Reason Effectively

• Use various types of reasoning (inductive, deductive, etc.) as appropriate to the situation

### **Use Systems Thinking**

 Analyze how parts of a whole interact with each other to produce overall outcomes in complex systems

#### Make Judgments and Decisions

- Effectively analyze and evaluate evidence, arguments, claims and beliefs
- Analyze and evaluate major alternative points of view
- Synthesize and make connections between information and arguments
- Interpret information and draw conclusions based on the best analysis
- Reflect critically on learning experiences and processes

### Solve Problems

- Solve different kinds of non-familiar problems in both conventional and innovative ways
- Identify and ask significant questions that clarify various points of view and lead to better solutions Partnership for 21st Century Skills, The. 2009. *P21 Framework Definitions*. Page 4.

http://www.p21.org/storage/documents/P21\_Framework\_Definitions.pdf

Many of the CA CCSS for ELA/Literacy and CA ELD Standards call for critical thinking. Students evaluate text and consider claims. They determine points of view and explore the impact of word choices. They evaluate language use. Representative CCR Anchor Standards of the CA CCSS for ELA/Literacy and CA ELD Standards that require critical thinking are presented in Figure 10.6.

Figure 10.6. Selected CCR Anchor Standards of the CA CCSS for ELA/Literacy and CA ELD Standards Critical Principles that Demand Critical Thinking

#### **CCR Anchor Standard: Reading**

- 4. Interpret words and phrases as they are used in a text, including determining technical, connotative, and figurative meanings, and analyze how specific word choices shape meaning or tone.
- Integrate and evaluate content presented in diverse media and formats, including visually and quantitatively, as well as in words.
- 8. Delineate and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, including the validity of the reasoning as well as the relevance and sufficiency of the evidence.
- 9. Analyze how two or more texts address similar themes or topics in order to build knowledge or to compare the approaches the authors take.

#### **CCR Anchor Standard: Writing**

- 1. Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.
- 8. Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources, assess the credibility and accuracy of each source, and integrate the information while avoiding plagiarism.

#### **CCR Anchor Standard: Speaking and Listening**

- Integrate and evaluate information presented in diverse media and formats, including visually, quantitatively, and orally.
- 3. Evaluate a speakers point of view, reasoning, and use of evidence and rhetoric.

### **CCR Anchor Standard: Language**

3. Apply knowledge of language to understand how language functions in different contexts, to make effective choices for meaning or style, and to comprehend more fully when reading or listening.

## CA ELD Standards Critical Principle: Part I - Collaborative

- 3. Offering and justifying opinions, negotiating with and persuading others in communicative exchanges.
- 6. Reading closely literary and informational texts and viewing multimedia to determine how meaning is conveyed explicitly and implicitly through language

#### CA ELD Standards Critical Principle: Part I - Interpretive

- 7. Evaluating how well writers and speakers use language to support ideas and opinions with details or reasons depending on modality, text type, purpose, audience, topic, and content area.
- 8. Analyzing how writers and speakers use vocabulary and other language resources for specific purposes (to explain, persuade, entertain, etc.) depending on modality, text type, purpose, audience, topic, and content area.

### **CA ELD Standards Critical Principle: Part I - Productive**

- 10. Writing literary and informational texts to present, describe, and explain ideas and information, using appropriate technology.
- 11. Justifying own arguments and evaluating others' arguments in speaking and writing.

## CA ELD Standards Critical Principle: Part II - Learning About How English Works

1. Understanding text structure and organization based on purpose, text type, audience, and discipline.

Instruction in crticial thinking occurs in all grade levels and with students. As students engage with texts, they learn to consider the following: Who is privileged? Who is marginalized? Who and what is missing? Who is the author? What is the author's objective? What are the author's perspectives and biases? Does the author adequately support claims? These questions should be asked of every type of text in every discipline.

The Model School Library Standards for California Public Schools Kindergarten
Through Grade Twelve (<a href="http://www.cde.ca.gov/be/st/ss/documents/librarystandards.pdf">http://www.cde.ca.gov/be/st/ss/documents/librarystandards.pdf</a>)
(CDE 2010) also provides grade-level standards that address evaluation of information in text and other sources. For example, students:

- Understand that the Internet contains accurate and inaccurate information.
   (Grade Two, Standard 2.1c)
- Identify the factors that make a source comprehensive, current, credible, authoritative, and accurate. (Grade Four, Standard 2.2a)

- Assess the author's evidence to support claims and assertions, noting instances
  of bias and stereotypes in a variety of visual and audio materials. (Grade Seven,
  Standard 2.1a)
- Evaluate online search results, demonstrating an understanding of how search engines determine rank or relevancy. (Grades Nine through Twelve, Standard 2.1a)

In addition, critical thinking is addressed in all academic core content areas and California's Career and Technical Education Model Curriculum Standards (<a href="http://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/ct/sf/documents/ctestdfrontpages.pdf">http://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/ct/sf/documents/ctestdfrontpages.pdf</a>) (CDE 2013a). It is important to note that critical thinking is not context-free; it is embodied in particular ways in different disciplines (National Research Council 2012).

## **Communication and Collaboration Skills**

Communication and collaboration skills are two of the "4Cs" identified by the Partnership for 21st Century Skills, and these skills are significant components of the CA CCSS for ELA/Literacy and the CA ELD Standards as well as every content area. Attention to effective communication occurs in each of the strands of the CA CCSS for ELA/Literacy and througout the Collaborative, Interpretive, and Productive modes of the CA ELD Standards. Students write for a variety of audiences for a variety of purposes using a variety of media; they learn to communicate effectively with peers, adults, and external, sometimes unfamiliar, audiences. In discussions and presentations, students attend to one another's ideas and convey their own clearly, they question and clarify to ensure understanding, they consider and evaluate point of view and follow and develop lines of argument, they interpret and strategically use diverse media to enhance communication, and they adapt their communicative efforts to a variety of contexts and tasks. Language standards focus on building students' skill with language conventions—grammar, usage, and mechanics—as well as acquisition and accurate use of vocabulary and phrases, including nuances in word meanings and figurative language so that students express themselves effectively. Reading standards include analysis of authors' use of craft and structure to communicate with readers. In short, communication is a cornerstone of ELA/literacy and ELD instruction.

Collaboration, too, is a prominent theme in the CA CCSS for ELA/Literacy and the CA ELD Standards. Reading is sometimes a solitary act, especially as students engage in independent reading, but it is often a social act as students work together to engage in meaning making with text, to produce and publish their own texts, and to conduct research and share knowledge through a variety of media. The importance of collaboration is highlighted in CCR Anchor Standard 1 for Speaking and Listening: Students prepare for and participate effectively in a range of conversations and collaborations with diverse partners, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively. Collaboration is also emphasized throughout all four strands in the Collaborative mode of the CA ELD Standards, with students collaborating in both oral and written language, for multiple purposes and using various forms of technology. Teachers at all grade levels and in all disciplines should plan for collaboration and ensure that students engage with diverse partners for diverse purposes.

Communication and collaboration extend well beyond the classroom and face-toface interactions. With technological advances in recent years, there is now no need for individuals to be in close physical proximity to engage in joint work. Work can be accomplished in electronically connected groups (including online global learning networks of groups investigating shared real-life concerns) in ways that were never before possible. The importance of distance and group dynamics need to be recognized when working in electronic workgroups. There are few interpersonal clues to assist members of a workgroup so members mustplace a much greater reliance on the content and perspective of the message to communicate. This is true of both receptive and expressive communication. In other words, in face-to-face collaborations, nonverbal cues, such as facial expressions and gestures, can contribute to understanding and also reveal confusion, frustration, satisfaction, agreement, or other reactions of group members to one another's ideas. Students, then, know to clarify their ideas by restating, demonstrating, or providing a quick sketch, or they know the group has reached consensus and is ready to move on to the next step. Electronic workgroups need to establish protocols, such as how to pose a question, what terminology to use, and when and in what form responses are expected, to enhance communication. Furthermore,

they need to develop and follow agreed-upon guidelines for building on the contributions of one another, such as when a group document or presentation is being created.

Social networking is a special case of collaboration, but it often occurs without the specific purpose of more conventional collaborations or workgroups. In light of the popular use of social media by their students and its potential to offer borderless communication and collaboration, teachers should include instruction in appropriate purposes, behavior, and alternatives based on district guidelines and use policies.

[Anderson 2012 (<a href="http://www.edutopia.org/how-to-create-social-media-guidelines-school">http://www.edutopia.org/how-to-create-social-media-guidelines-school</a>) provides a process for creating guidelines.]

## **Creativity and Innovation Skills**

As the California State Superintendent's *A Blueprint for Great Schools* (http://www.cde.ca.gov/eo/in/bp/documents/yr11bp0709.pdf) notes:

The highest performing school systems in the world prepare their students to apply rigorous academic content knowledge to real life situations. The end goal is to foster each student's ability to create innovative solutions to complex problems and to bring higher levels of economic prosperity and social cohesion. As a result, these students are better able to lead more productive and prosperous adult lives. Every California student deserves these same opportunities. (CDE 2011a, 11)

In fact, a survey for Association of American Colleges and Universities revealed that employers give hiring preference to college graduates with skills that will enable them to contribute to innovation in the workplace (Hart Research Associates 2013, 1).

California's recognition of the value of creativity and innovation is reiterated in the Standards for Career Ready Practice, described in the California Career Technical Education Model Curriculum Standards

(<a href="http://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/ct/sf/ctemcstandards.asp">http://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/ct/sf/ctemcstandards.asp</a>) (CDE 2013a). Standard 10 states that students in all career exploration and preparation programs in grades seven through twelve should demonstrate creativity and innovation:

Career-ready individuals recommend ideas that solve problems in new and different ways and contribute to the improvement of the organization.

They consider unconventional ideas and suggestions by others as

solutions to issues, tasks, or problems. They discern which ideas and suggestions may have the greatest value. They seek new methods, practices, and ideas from a variety of sources and apply those ideas to their own workplace practices. (17-18)

Elements of creativity and innovation described by the Partnership for 21st Century Skills are displayed in Figure 10.7.

Figure 10.7. Text About Critical Thinking from the Partnership for 21st Century Skills

#### **Creativity and Innovation**

### Think Creatively

- Use a wide range of idea creation techniques (such as brainstorming)
- Create new and worthwhile ideas (both incremental and radical concepts)
- Elaborate, refine, analyze and evaluate their own ideas in order to improve and maximize creative efforts

#### Work Creatively with Others

- Develop, implement and communicate new ideas to others effectively
- Be open and responsive to new and diverse perspectives; incorporate group input and feedback into the work
- Demonstrate originality and inventiveness in work and understand the real world limits to adopting new ideas
- View failure as an opportunity to learn; understand that creativity and innovation is a long-term, cyclical process of small successes and frequent mistakes

### Implement Innovations

 Act on creative ideas to make a tangible and useful contribution to the field in which the innovation will occur

Partnership for 21st Century Skills, The. 2009. *P21 Framework Definitions*. Pages 3-4. http://www.p21.org/storage/documents/P21\_Framework\_Definitions

Creativity and innovation are essential skills for success in the 21st century. It is imperative that all of California's students be provided educational programs and environments in which creativity is valued, encouraged, and taught in every discipline. Furthermore, time and guidance should be provided so that students can put their creative ideas into practice as they engage in innovation. Creativity and innovation can be nurtured by learning environments that "foster questioning, patience, openness to

fresh ideas, high levels of trust, and learning from mistakes and failures" (Trilling and Fadel 2009, 57-58).

Although creativity and innovation are not explicitly addressed in the CA CCSS for ELA/Literacy or the CA ELD Standards, development of these skills is implied, particularly in writing and presenting standards (Partnership for 21st Century Skills 2011, 12). Creativity and innovation should be fostered as students engage with texts and ideas. Students should have many opportunities to creatively respond to texts, produce texts, develop and deliver presentations, and engage in research to explore their own questions. Imagination, flexibility, divergent thinking, receptiveness to the ideas of others, and willingness to explore and take risks should be emphasized in the ELA/Literacy curricula and in every content area.

## Global Awareness and Competence

California's wealth of diverse linguistic and cultural resources reflected in its people are extraordinarily valuable assets for the state. All of California's students should be provided instruction and opportunities to appreciate, understand and work with individuals from different backgrounds. Furthermore, they should learn about global issues—those than impact more than their neighborhoods and the nation—and develop an understanding of different perspectives and the interrelationships among all humans. The global competencies identified by the CCSSO EdSteps Initiative and Asia Society Partnership for Global Learning, discussed at the beginning of this chapter, are aligned with CCR Anchor Standards and CA ELD Standards in Figure 10.8.

Figure 10.8. Global Competences Aligned with CCR Anchor Standards of the CA CCSS for ELA/Literacy

Global Competence	CCR Anchor Standard or CA ELD Standard Critical Principles
Investigate the world beyond their Reading Anchor Standard 1: Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly	
immediate environment	make logical inferences from it; cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to
Identify an issue, generate a question, and	support conclusions drawn from the text.
explain the significance of locally, regionally,	Reading Anchor Standard 2: determine central ideas or themes of a text and analyze their
and globally focused researchable	development; summarize the key supporting details and ideas.
questions	Reading Anchor Standard 3: Analyze how and why individuals, events, and ideas develop and
Use a variety of languages and domestic	interact over the course of a text.
and international sources to identify and	Reading Anchor Standard 6: Assess how point of view or purpose shapes the content and
weigh relevant evidence in addressing a	style of a text.
globally significant researchable question	Reading Anchor Standard 8: Delineate and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a
Analyze, integrate, and synthesize evidence	text, including the validity of the reasoning as well as the relevance and sufficiency of the
to construct coherent responses to globally	evidence.
significant researchable questions	Reading Anchor Standard 10: Read and comprehend complex literary and informational texts
Develop an argument based on compelling	independently and proficiently.
evidence that considers multiple	Writing Anchor Standard 1: Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive
perspectives and draws defensible	topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.
conclusions	Writing Anchor Standard 4: Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development,
	organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
	Writing Anchor Standard 7: Conduct short as well as more sustained research projects based
	on focused questions, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation.
	Writing Anchor Standard 9: Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support
	analysis, reflection, and research.
	Speaking and Listening Anchor Standard 2: Integrate and evaluate information presented in
	diverse media and formats, incuding visually, quantitatively, and orally.

Global Competence	CCR Anchor Standard or CA ELD Standard Critical Principles
	Speaking and Listening Anchor Standard 3: Evaluate a speaker's point of view, reasoning,
	and use of evidence and rhetoric.
	Speaking and Listening Anchor Standard 5: Make strategic use of digial media and visual
	displays of data to express information and enhance understanding of presentations.
	ELD Standards Critical Principle: Part 1 - Productive, 11: Justifying own arguments and
	evaluating others' arguments in writing.
Recognize perspectives, others' and their	Reading Anchor Standard 6: Assess how point of view or purpose shapes the content and
own	style of a text.
Recognize and express their own	Reading Anchor Standard 9: Analyze how two or more texts address similar themes or topics
perspective on situations, events, issues, or	in order to build knowledge or to compare the approaches the authors take.
phenomena and identify the influences on	Writing Anchor Standard 1: Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive
that perspective	topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.
Examine perspectives of other people,	Writing Anchor Standard 4: Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development,
groups, or schools of thought and identify	organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
the influences on those perspectives	Writing Anchor Standard 6: Use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish
Explain how cultural interactions influence	writing and to interact and collaborate with others.
situations, events, issues, or phenomena,	Writing Anchor Standard 7: Conduct short as well as more sustained research projects based
including the development of knowledge	on focused questions, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation.
Articulate how differential access to	Writing Anchor Standard 8: Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources,
knowledge, technology, and resources	assess the credibility and accuracy of each source, and integrate the information while avoiding
affects quality of life and perspectives	plagiarism.
	Speaking and Listening Anchor Standard 1: Prepare for and participate effectively in a range
	of conversations and collaborations with diverse partners, building on others' ideas and
	expressing their own clearly and persuasively.
	Speaking and Listening Anchor Standard 2: Integrate and evaluate information presented in
	diverse media and formats, incuding visually, quantitatively, and orally.

Global Competence	CCR Anchor Standard or CA ELD Standard Critical Principles
	Speaking and Listening Anchor Standard 3: Evaluate a speaker's point of view, reasoning,
	and use of evidence and rhetoric.
	Language Anchor Standard 3: Apply knowledge of language to understand how language
	functions in different contexts, to make effective choices for meaning or style, and to
	comprehend more fully when reading or listening.
	ELD Standards Critical Principle: Part 1 - Interpretive, 8: Analyzing how writers and
	speakers use vocabulary and other language resources for specific purposes (to explain,
	persuade, entertain, etc.) depending on modality, text type, purpose, audience, topic, and
	content area.
Communicate ideas effectively with diverse	Writing Anchor Standard 1: Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive
audiences	topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.
Recognize and express how diverse	Writing Anchor Standard 2: Write informative/expanatory texts to examine and convey
audiences may perceive different meanings	complex ideas and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection,
from the same information and how that	organization, and analysis of content.
impacts communication	Writing Anchor Standard 4: Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development,
Listen to and communicate effectively with	organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
diverse people, using appropriate verbal	Writing Anchor Standard 7: Conduct short as well as more sustained research projects based
and nonverbal behavior, languages, and	on focused questions, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation.
strategies	Writing Anchor Standard 8: Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources,
Select and use appropriate technology and	assess the credibility and accuracy of each source, and integrate the information while avoiding
media to communicate with diverse	plagiarism.
audiences	Writing Anchor Standard 10: Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research,
Reflect on how effective communication	reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of
impacts understanding and collaboration in	tasks, purposes, and audiences.
an interdependent world	Speaking and Listening Anchor Standard 1: Prepare for and participate effectively in a range
	of conversations and collaborations with diverse partners, building on others' ideas and

Global Competence	CCR Anchor Standard or CA ELD Standard Critical Principles
	expressing their own clearly and persuasively.
	Speaking and Listening Anchor Standard 4: Present information, findings, and supporting
	evidence such that listeners can follow the line of reasoning and the organization, development
	and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
	Language Anchor Standard 3: Apply knowledge of language to understand how language
	functions in different contexts, to make effective choices for meaning or style, and to
	comprehend more fully when reading or listening.
	ELD Standards Crticial Principle: Part 1 - Collaborative,1: Exchanging information and ideas
	with others through oral collaborative discussions on a range of social and academic topics.
Take action	Reading Anchor Standard 1: Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly and to
Identify and create opportunities for	make logical inferences from it; cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to
personal or collaborative action to address	support conclusions drawn from the text.
situations, events, issues, or phenomena in	Writing Anchor Standard 1: Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive
ways that improve conditions	topics or text using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.
assess options and plan actions based on	Writing Anchor Standard 1: Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive
evidence and the potential for impact, taking	topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.
into account previous approaches, varied	ELD Standards Crtitical Principle: Part 1 - Productive, 9: Expressing information and ideas in
perspectives, and potential consequences	formal oral presentations on academic topics.
Act, personally or collaboratively, in creative	ELD Standards Criticle Principle: Part 1 - Productive, 11: Justifying own arguments and
and ethical ways to contribute to	evaluating others' arguments in writing.
improvement locally, regionally, or globally	ELD Standards Critical Principle: Part 1 - Productive, 12: Selecting and applying varied and
and assess the impact of the actions taken	precise vocabulary and other language resources to effectively convey ideas.
Reflect on their capacity to advocate for and	
contribute to improvement locally,	
regionally, or globally	

# **Technology Skills**

Technology pervades modern society. It impacts most aspects of youth and adults' personal and professional lives. Furthermore, it has the potential to substantially support the achievement of many of the 21st century skills discussed previously in this chapter: Its wise use demands critical thinking; it expands and enriches opportunities for communication and collabortion; it is a powerful tool for creativity and innovation; and it can contribute to global awareness and competence. The question is not *whether* technology will be used in classrooms, but rather how *best* to capitalize on technology to support teachers and learners. In its report *A Blueprint for Great Schools*, the Transition Advisory Team for the California State Superintendent recommended that technology be incorporated "as a key component of teaching, learning, and assessment" (CDE 2011a, 5) and that digital technology be made "as effective and productive a tool in the school environment as it is in the world beyond schools" (12). Surveys indicate that parents, too, consider technology important or extremely important to student success and the school's core mission (Project Tomorrow 2013, 4).

Important in the context of this *ELA/ELD Framework* is that the Internet and other forms of information and communication technologies (ICTs) are redefining literacy (International Reading Association 2009). Students increasingly engage with search engines, Web pages, podcasts and vodcasts, blogs, e-books, wikis, and the ongoing flood of new ICTs in English and other languages. Students should learn how to critically harness and manage the power of these media for accessing, evaluating, creating, and sharing information with local and global others. At the same time, teachers should ensure that students learn how to use technologies safely and ethically.

The International Reading Association (2009) notes that the use of these new and dynamic forms of communication require new social practices, skills, strategies, and dispositions; are central to full civic, economic, and personal participation in a global community; rapidly change as defining technologies change; and are multiple, multimodal, and multifaceted. The incorporation of a range of technologies into ELA/literacy and ELD instruction is crucial and demands thoughtful attention.

Technology skills are woven throughout the CCR Anchor Standards and CA CCSS for ELA/Literacy. Among the technology skills identified in the CA CCSS for ELA/Literacy are the following:

- Use the Internet
- Use search tools
- Use keyboarding skills
- Engage with digital text, including animations and interactive elements on Web pages
- Use digital media, including textual, graphical, audio, visual, and interactive elements
- Produce digital text
- Use electronic menus
- Consult digital reference materials
- Interpret and produce multimedia presentations
   The CA ELD Standards, too, demand technology skills, including the following:
- Use communicative technology to interact with others
- Use technology for publishing
- Use technology to develop graphics
- View multimedia

Figure 10.9 lists CCR Anchor Standards and CA ELD Standards that explicitly include technology and provides one or two examples of corresponding grade-level standards. Also listed in Figure 10.9 are CCR Anchor Standards that do not explicitly mention technology, but that have corresponding grade-level standards that mention technology. It is important to note that even standards that do not mention technology may be addressed with technology. For example, Writing Standard 2 across the grade levels focuses on informative and explanatory writing. Technology is not mentioned in the CCR Anchor Standard nor in any of the corresponding CA CCSS for ELA/Literacy. However, at most grade levels, teachers are likely to encourage or require students use the Internet to conduct research in preparation for some writing, use word processing software to prepare some of these texts, including graphs and charts, and use multimedia software to present some student-written informative and explanatory texts.

The standards recognize that students at all grade levels, even in the earliest grades, need opportunities to interact with technology. Writing Standard 6 for kindergarten, for example, states "With guidance and support from adults, explore a variety of digital tools to produce and publish writing, including in collaboration with peers." Guidance for young children's use of technology is provided in *Technology and Interactive Media as Tools in Early Childhood Programs Serving Children from Birth through Age 8* (<a href="http://www.naeyc.org/files/naeyc/PS">http://www.naeyc.org/files/naeyc/PS</a> technology WEB.pdf) (2012), the position statement of the National Association for the Education of Young Children and the Fred Rogers Center for Early Learning and Children's Media at Saint Vincent College. Importantly, the guidelines assert that "Effective uses of technology and media are active, hands-on, engaging, and empowering; give the child control; provide adaptive scaffolds to ease the accomplishment of tasks; and are used as one of many options to support children's learning" (8).

Figure 10.9. CCR Anchor Standards and CA ELD Standards and Selected Grade-Level/Profiency Level Standards with Explicit Technology Components (technology component bolded)

**Reading Anchor Standard 5**: Analyze the structure of texts, including how specific sentences, paragraphs, and larger portions of the text (e.g., a section, chapter, scene, or stanza) relate to each other and the whole.

- Grade-Level Example: RI.2.5 Know and use various text features (e.g., captions, bold print, subheadings, glossaries, indexes, electronic menus, icons) to locate key facts or information in a text efficiently.
- *Grade-Level Example*: RI.3.5 Use text features and **search tools** (e.g., key words, sidebars, hyperlinks) to locate information relevant to a given topic efficiently.

**Reading Anchor Standard 7**: Integrate and evaluate content presented in diverse **media** and formats, including visually and quantitatively, as well as in words.

- *Grade-Level Example*: RL.2.7 Use information gained from the illustrations and words in print or **digital text** to demonstrate understanding of its characters, setting, or plot.
- *Grade-Level Example*: L/HSS.11-12.7 Integrate and evaluate multiple sources of information presented in diverse formats and **media** (e.g., visually, quantitatively, as well as in words) in order to address a question or solve a problem.

Writing Anchor Standard 6: Use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing and to interact and collaborate with others.

- *Grade-Level Example*: W.K.6 With guidance and support from adults, explore a variety of **digital tools** to produce and publish writing, including in collaboration with peers.
- Grade-Level Example: W.7.6 Use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish
  writing and link to and cite sources as well as to interact and collaborate with others, including
  linking to and citing sources.

Writing Anchor Standard 8: Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources, assess the credibility and accuracy of each source, and integrate the information while avoiding plagiarism.

- *Grade-Level Example*: W.3.8 Recall information from experiences or gather information from print and **digital sources**; take brief notes on sources and sort evidence into provided categories.
- Grade-Level Example: W/HSST.6.8 Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital
  sources; using advanced searches effectively; assess the strengths and limitations of each source
  in terms of the specific task, purpose, and audience; integrate information into the text selectively to
  maintain the flow of ideas, avoiding plagiarism and overreliance on any one source and following a
  standard format for citation.

**Speaking and Listening Anchor Standard 2**: Integrate and evaluate information presented in diverse **media** and formats, including visually, quantitatively, and orally.

- *Grade-Level Example*: SL.2.2 Recount or describe key ideas or details from a text read aloud or information presented orally or through other **media**.
- Grade-Level Example: SL.11-12.2 Integrate multiple sources of information presented in diverse
  formats and media (e.g., visually, quantitatively, orally) in order to make informed decisions and solve
  problems, evaluating the credibility and accuracy of each source and noting any discrepancies among
  the data.

**Speaking and Listening Anchor Standard 5**: Make strategic use of **digital media** and visual displays of data to express information and enhance understanding of presentations.

- *Grade-Level Example*: SL.5.5 Include **multimedia components** (e.g., **graphics, sound**) and visual displays in presentations when appropriate to enhance the development of main ideas or themes.
- Grade-Level Example: SL.11-12.5 Make strategic use of digital media (e.g., textual, graphical, audio, visual, and interactive elements) in presentations to enhance understanding of findings, reasoning, and evidence and to add interest.

**Language Anchor Standard 4**: Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases by using context clues, analyzing meaningful word parts, and consulting general and specialized reference materials, as appropriate.

- Grade-Level Example: L.2.4e Use glossaries and beginning dictionaries, both print and digital, determine or clarify the meaning of words and phrases in all content areas.
- Grade-Level Example: L.9-10.4c Consult general and specialized reference materials (e.g., college-level dictionaries, rhyming dictionaries, bilingual dictionaries, glossaries, thesauruses), both print and digital, to find the pronunciation of a word or determine or clarify its precise meaning, its part of

speech or its etymology.

**ELD Standards Critical Principle: Part 1 - Collaborative, 2**: Interacting with others in written English in various communicative forms (print, **communicative technology**, and **multimedia**)

- Grade-Level Example: Grade 3/Emerging: Collaborate with peers on joint writing projects of short
  informational and literary texts, using technology where appropriate for publishing, graphics, etc.
- *Grade-Level Example*: Grade 8/Bridging: Engage in extended written exchanges with peers and collaborate on complex written texts on a variety of topics, using **technology** when appropriate.

**ELD Standards Critical Principle: Part 1 - Interpretive, 6**: Reading closely literary and informational texts and viewing **multimedia** to determine how meaning is conveyed explicitly and implicitly through language.

- Grade-Level Example: Grade K/Expanding: Describe ideas, phenomena (e.g., how butterflies eat),
   and text elements (e.g., setting characters) in greater detail based on understanding of a variety of grade-level texts and viewing of multimedia with moderate support.
- Grade-Level Example: Grade 7/Bridging: Explain ideas, phenomena, processes, and text
  relationships (e.g., compare/contrast, cause/effect, problem/solution) based on close reading of a
  variety of grade-level texts and viewing of multimedia with light support.

**ELD Standards Critical Principle: Part 1 - Productive, 10**: Writing literary and informational texts to present, describe, and explain ideas and information, using appropriate **technology**.

- Grade-Level Example: Grade 2/Emerging: Write very short literary texts (e.g., story) and informational texts (e.g., a description of a volcano) using familiar vocabulary collaboratively with an adult (e.g., joint construction of texts), with peers, and sometimes independently.
- *Grade-Level Example*: Grade 9-10/Expanding: (a) Write longer literary and informational texts (e.g., an argument about water rights) collaboratively (e.g., with peers) and independently using appropriate text organization and growing understanding of register.

Several topics related to the use of technology are discussed in the following subsections.

## Understanding Multimedia Text

Much of the text encountered on the Internet and in electronic formats has both conventional print elements and other media—graphics, sound, video, or animations. These types of texts are often labeled *multimedia* documents. There are also sites where there is no conventional text and all meaning is conveyed by other media. Students need to learn how multimedia elements affect the messages being conveyed by the document. They need to know when to attend to them and when they are less important. Mayer (1997) demonstrated that graphics may be more useful for learners

who have little prior knowledge on the topic under exploration than those who have considerable knowledge of the topic. Sung and Mayer (2012) distinguish among three types of multimedia text: instructive graphics (i.e., directly relevant to the instructional goal); seductive graphics (i.e., highly interesting but not directly relevant to the instructional goal); and decorative graphics (i.e., neutral but not directly relevant to the instructional goal). Their research indicated that instructive graphics produced better learning. The implication is that, at the very least, students should be taught how to distinguish among these types of graphics.

Kim and Kamil (2003) identified some of the issues with multimedia inclusions in text. They note that media need to be clearly elaborated and integrated with conventional text and that text and other media need to be presented contiguously to be maximally effective. They also state that students need to learn how to read and use hyperlinks effectively because some students routinely click on all hyperlinks in the text rather than ones that might be relevant to their purposes for reading. Because all texts are not equally valuable or well written, the reader needs to decide when and how to use hyperlinks, attend to multimedia, and be critical in evaluating the content.

Multimedia learning does not necessarily yield more learning and is not always more motivational than other instructional options. Teachers should be critical in their review of multimedia resources.

# **Using Software**

Specific software skills need to be taught in order to prepare students for using technologies as tools. At a minimum, students should be prepared to use word processors, database managers, spreadsheets, and presentation software by the time they complete high school. Students are likely to encounter each of these types of software in some form in educational and work settings. Building facility with such programs early will help students learn to navigate newer programs as they evolve.

Word processing has been used extensively in schools for many years. Such programs are an excellent way to facilitate writing development and reflect the need to prepare students for the world of work or college where the use of such programs is nearly universal. Although much of this will be taught as part of literacy instruction, a large portion of this instruction also should be incorporated in the other disciplines.

Presentation programs should be used to allow students to create their own multimedia documents, preparing them for the world after high school. This will also allow instruction consistent with CA CCSS for ELA/Literacy and the CA ELD Standards in that it can combine the various dimensions of language communication (that is, reading, writing, speaking and listening) and multimedia text. Database and spreadsheet programs are useful in teaching research skills as well as search strategies. Instruction in the use of these programs will help students learn to process information more directly and efficiently.

## Online Learning

Online delivery of instruction is increasingly popular. More than one million kindergarten through grade twelve students enrolled in at least one online course in 2007-08, although most of these courses were at the high school level or in an elementary/secondary setting (U.S. Department of Education 2009/10). Online courses offer distinct advantages to districts in terms of cost and convenience, especially for districts where students are distributed across a wide geographic area and there might be challenges in delivering instruction in specific content areas.

Online learning will be an essential part of the future, both in school as well as out of school. Students should be prepared to learn in an online medium and should experience online learning in an instructional context during their school career. The relative newness of online learning and the limited number of studies available suggest that districts approach online instruction with caution, especially when the material is intended to replace face-to-face instruction rather than to enhance it. A number of the skills that students will need in order to complete online learning are affective in nature—for example, perseverance and independence—and instruction in online learning should be planned with these skills in mind. As noted earlier, these types of skills are reflected in the CA CCSS's capacities of a literate individual described in Chapter 1 of this *ELA/ELD Framework* and also listed in Figure 10.4 of this chapter. They are also prominent in the intrapersonal and interpersonal cluster of deeper learning described at the beginning of this chapter and presented in Figure 10.3.

## Technology and Assessment

Technology and other 21st century skills are an integral part of the new assessment systems for the CA CCSS for ELA/Literacy. The multistate Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC), of which California is a governing member, includes computer-adaptive assessments that can respond to a student's initial performance to more rapidly and accurately identify which skills the student has mastered. These assessments also allow for a faster turnaround of test results so that they can be used to inform instruction. More information on assessment is provided in Chapter 8 and throughout this *ELA/ELD Framework*.

# Digital Citizenship

Issues related to ethics, privacy, plagiarism, and cyberbullying warrant careful attention. Digital citizenship refers to responsible and appropriate use of technology. Teachers should be well versed in district and school policies as well as legal issues and should teach students about these issues. The *Model School Library Standards for California Public Schools Kindergarten Through Grade Twelve* (CDE 2010) provides guidance. It include standards related to the ethical, legal, and safe use of information in print, media, and online resources for every grade level. Examples include the following:

**Kindergarten 3.1b:** Understand the need to ask a trusted adult for permission when asked to provide personal information in person, on a form, or online.

**Grade Four 3.1b:** Understand the environment of Internet anonymity and that not everyone on the Internet is truthful and reliable.

**Grades Seven and Eight 3.1a:** Explain ethical and legal issues related to the use of intellectual property, including print, visual, audio, and online materials (e.g., fair use, file sharing).

**Grades Nine Through Twelve 3.1i:** Practice strategies to protect digital devices (e.g., antivirus software, secure connections, encryption, operating-system updates).

In addition, guidance for the safe and responsible use of social media should be addressed.

# Home-School-Community Connections

Technology can contribute to home-school-community relationships, which California recognizes is fundamental to improved student learning outcomes (CDE 2011a, 2011b). Opportunities for communication are expanded significantly through the use of email, video-conferencing, and social media tools. One survey revealed that more than one-third of parents would like their child's teacher or school to communicate with them via text messaging (Project Tomorrow 2013, 12). The range of technological options for communication may contribute to the likelihood and timeliness of home-school-community information exchanges and collaborations.

Examples of technology use to facilitate communication among homes, schools, and communities include the following:

- Digital newsletters (provided in the languages of the homes) that highlight classroom learning experiences and, with permission, include photographs and videos
- Forums on which questions from homes, communities, and schools can be posed and answered
- Classroom webpages that include classroom news and student work (with permission)
- Online surveys of parents or guardians, students, and communities to determine interests, hopes, and potential contributions to student learning
- Informative classroom blogs, podcasts, vodcasts
- Wikis for collaboration among students, parents or guardians, and community members
- Online gradebooks, accessible by teachers, students, and parents or guardians
   Technology provides a promising new form of parent involvement (Zieger and
   Tan 2012). As they use technology to engage with homes and communities, educators
   should model responsible, ethical, and secure use of technology. Schools should also
   recognize that some families may have limited access to technology, and so print
   versions of information should be made available.

## **Instructional Practices for 21st Century Learning**

The Committee on Defining Deeper Learning and 21st Century Skills recommends the following research-based teaching methods to support 21st century learners (National Research Council 2012, 181-182):

- Using multiple and varied representations of concepts and tasks, such as diagrams, animations, and concrete experiences along with text
- Encouraging elaboration, questioning, and explanation, such as prompting students to explain information and arguments as they read
- Engaging learners in challenging tasks while providing supportive guidance and feedback
- Teaching with examples and cases, such as modeling how to prepare a
  presentation or provide constructive feedback to a student author
- Priming student motivation, such as by connecting topics to students' lives and interests, engaging them in collaborative work
- Using formative assessment

Engagement with literature provides an exceptional forum for development of 21st century skills. The CA CCSS for ELA/Literacy and the CA ELD Standards ensure that students engage richly with literary and informational text across the grade span and throughout the curriculum. Figure 10.10 highlights several 21st century skills that can be supported by a variety of instructional experiences with literary and informational text.

Figure 10.10. Selected 21st Century Skills and Literary and Informational Text Experiences

## Students develop critical thinking when they

- Synthesize and organize text information.
- Examine text closely to interpret information, draw conclusions, and evaluate an author's decisions about content and form.
- Closely and critically examine visual aspects of a text, including illustrations, diagrams, and charts, for bias, perspective, aesthetic appeal, and representation.
- Identify the author's perspectives, biases, and use of rhetoric.
- Generate questions about the content, form, purposes or perspectives of a text.
- Communicate with others to understand their points of view, ideas, and interpretations.

• Identify real world local and global issues (e.g., social, economic, political, environmental) discussed in literary and informational text.

### Students develop creative thinking when they

- Develop dramatic, poetic, media, and visual responses to literary and informational text.
- Engage in idea-generation activities, such as brainstorming.
- Participate in activities that spark their curiosity about text or text topics.
- Create presentations to share understandings of text.
- Create facebook pages, blogs, or tweets for characters or historical figures.
- Generate research questions and procedures in response to text.

### Students develop communication and collaboration skills when they

- Present orally or in written, digital or visual form, both informally and formally, their responses to and understandings of a text selection.
- Share understandings with one another and build on the ideas and interpretations of others.
- Communicate in large and small groups about literary and informational text for a variety of purposes, including to inform, question, clarify, or persuade.
- Elaborate on their own and others' ideas about texts.
- Plan and organize individual and collaborative presentations to convey or extend text information, ideas or themes, with an audience in mind.
- Discuss with peers different interpretations of text and reasons for those interpretations.
- Interact in meaningful ways with peers of diverse backgrounds and discuss different and similar perspectives on issues.

### Students develop social and cross-cultural skills and global competence when they

- Interact with local and distant others to share responses to information, themes, characters, illustrations, and author's choices.
- Collaborate with diverse partners to design and develop presentations or projects in response to literature.
- Engage with literature that presents a range of world perspectives and experiences.
- Respectfully and with an open mind discuss literature with peers from diverse backgrounds.
- Capitalize on proficiency in languages other than english to communicate with global peers.

## Students develop technology skills when they

- Engage with digital and multimedia text.
- Engage in additional investigation of topics in a text using technology, such as the internet.
- Use a variety of technologies, such as computers, tablets, projection systems, document cameras, and mp3 players or ipods, to share information from or responses to a text or to learn more about a topic or author.
- Examine text carefully to locate and use pertinent information to support a position, justify an interpretation, or make a point.

(Adapted from Yopp and Yopp 2014)

## **Equitable Access**

It is critical that all students have access to curricula, instruction, and learning environments that develop their critical and creative thinking, communication and collaboration skills, global competence and other 21st century skills. Attention to these skills should not be set aside until after students develop proficiency with reading and writing or with English as an additional language. They are a crucial component of every student's education. Highlighted in this section is access to technology.

## **Technology**

The term *digital divide* was coined in the 1990s to reference the gap in access to computers and the Internet that separated different demographic and socioeconomic groups in the United States. The concept was popularized by a series of reports conducted by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration called, "Falling through the Net" (NTIA 1995, 1998, 1999, 2000). These reports revealed that rural, socioeconomically disadvantaged, and minority groups tended to have less access to modern information and communication technology and the benefits provided by those connections.

While the gap in access has closed somewhat over the last two decades, U.S. Census data (<a href="http://www.census.gov/hhes/computer/publications/2011.html">http://www.census.gov/hhes/computer/publications/2011.html</a>) reveals that in 2011 95.2 percent of individuals in the highest household income bracket had access to the Internet at home whereas only 50.2 percent of individuals in the lowest household income bracket had access in the home. The percentages of white, Asian, African-American, and Hispanic households with Internet use was 81.7 percent; 87.4 percent, 63.2 and 63.0 percent, respectively. Furthermore, there are concerns that populations of color are less likely to be involved with social media and Web 2.0 applications that include rich content and technologies for networking and collaboration online (Payton 2003; Trotter 2007).

Given the overlap between the groups involved in the digital divide and the achievement gap in student performance, it is important that districts, schools, and teachers remain alert to the issue of equitable access to technology. While federal grants and other funding have helped balance the technology available in schools (although not entirely), there may still be significant gaps in the technology that students

have access to outside of their school environments. Studies have shown that gaps in access to reading material affect outcomes in reading achievement, and gaps in access to technology likely will have as much impact upon student success in a 21st century learning environment. Solutions to address these gaps may include giving students access to computer resources outside of school hours, issuing technology devices to students to take home, and training teachers to be aware of these issues and providing them with strategies to address them as part of their professional learning (Davis, Fullerton, Jackson, Pittman, and Sweet 2007). Furthermore, school library hours may be extended to offer students web access to online library resources. Importantly, schools should have adequate bandwidth and Internet access to serve the needs of students.

Technology can help ensure that all children have access to the standards-based academic curriculum. Issues of equitable access are discussed in more detail in another chapter of this framework, but the specific capability of technology to support a range of learners is noted here. The discussions that follow are not intended to suggest these are mutually exclusive populations of students.

# Accessibility for Students with Disabilities

Assistive technology can be used to help students with disabilities gain access to the core curriculum and participate in activities that might otherwise be difficult or impossible. According to IDEA, the term assistive technology device means any item, piece of equipment or product system, whether acquired commercially off the shelf, modified, or customized, that is used to increase, maintain, or improve functional capabilities of a child with a disability. Assistive technology can also refer to software that assists in differentiating instruction or provides necessary visual and auditory context to academic instruction. The CDE's Clearinghouse for Specialized Media and Translations (<a href="http://www.cde.ca.gov/re/pn/sm/">http://www.cde.ca.gov/re/pn/sm/</a>) produces accessible versions of textbooks, workbooks assessments, and ancillary student instructional materials. Accessible formats include Braille, large print, audio, and digital files ranging from Rich Text Files (RTF), HyperText Markup Language (HTML), Digital Accessible Information System (DAISY), and Portable Document Format (PDF).

## **English Learners**

Technology can be used to support EL students' language and literacy development. For example, software that uses visual cues to assist in the teaching of reading concepts can help students at Emerging levels of English language proficiency gain understanding. In addition, EL students benefit from technology use in classroom learning tasks provided to all students. A 2010 study of one district's Digital Learning Classroom project found that interactive whiteboard technology used in the upper elementary grades increased ELs' achievement in reading and mathematics and helped to close the achievement gap between EL and non-EL students(Lopez 2010).

## **Advanced Learners**

Technology can contribute to a challenging and intellectually engaging educational environment for advanced learners. Computer programs that include self-paced options and allow students to explore advanced concepts can keep a range of learners engaged in the learning process. Technology that facilitates a collaborative learning environment can also help advanced students become involved with their peers' study of reading and writing, a more useful outcome than sending them off to study independently. In addition, technology allows for extraordinary creativy and self-direction.

## **Professional Learning and Teacher Support**

Professional learning is addressed in Chapter 11 of the *ELA/ELD Framework* and so is only briefly noted here. It is critical that teachers are provided excellent professional support as they increasingly integrate 21st century skills into every curricular area. They should be provided opportunities to collaborate in learning and planning, which can occur face-to-face or through virtual communities of practice. They should share and be provided rich models of effective 21st century instruction and curriculum, engage in thoughtful reflection and critique of lessons, and build on and refine instruction together. Because of the remarkable speed of technological innovation, professional learning should be ongoing. Teachers cannot be expected to use technology wisely and productively with students if they are uncomfortable or unfamiliar with the possibilities that the wide variety of tools provide.

### **Future Directions**

There is a moral imperative to provide students with a skill set that will prepare them for the world in which 21st century skills will be increasingly central in their ongoing educations, careers, and daily lives. Students need to learn about the uses and possible abuses of technology and how to accommodate them in their lives. And, becoming adept in collaborative endeavors and independent learning will be valued increasingly in the future.

The popularity of listening and viewing (such as with podcasts and vodcasts) suggests the need for greater attention to both these skills. Writing and reading need to be adapted to include ways to incorporate multimedia elements in effective ways.

Above all, it will be important to instill in students the need to be highly critical of what they read, hear, and view and to privilege the use of evidence as part of the arguments they read and formulate. Critical analysis and evaluation of content will be the cachet of the future and one of the few ways that will ensure success in college or career and in civic participation. In addition, teaching students to be independent and flexible learners who can work in groups when necessary, but who are capable of taking action independently, will be essential.

The payoffs for these efforts will be the preparation of students who can contribute to and participate in whatever the future delivers.

### Snapshot 10.1 Integrating Technology into an Extended Writing Project in Grade Two

After reading and discussing several informational books about reptiles, second graders work in pairs to write their own informational text about a reptile of their choice. With the teacher and teacher librarian's assistance, they gather books from the library, view relevant video clips, and explore selected websites on the Internet using search terms discussed with the adult. They write a list of key ideas in several categories, such as appearance, habitat, and eating habits. They also record special vocabulary. Students researching the common snapping turtle, for example, record the terms *rigid carapace*, *freshwater*, and *omnivore* because they want to be sure to use them in their text. Each team creates a draft modeled after the texts the teacher had read aloud and discussed with the class. Students' drafts are shared with the teacher who provides feedback and guidance. When ready, each student pair develops a final version, having made presentation decisions, and includes informational text features appropriate to their piece of writing, such a Table of Contents, bolded words, captions, and headings. As a finishing touch on their projects, students add Quick Response (QR) Codes to each page of their books,

a technology with which they previously had gained experience. Each code allows viewers of the book to use a class QR scanner (such as an app installed on a tablet or Smartphone) to listen to translations that bilingual students record. This provides opportunities for ELs to interact with the book in their primary language in addition to English. Similarly, the books may be shared with family members who are learning English.

CA CCSS for ELA/Literacy: W.2.7, W.2.2, W.2.6, RI.2.5, SL.2.5, LS.2.6 L.2.1, L.2.2, L.2.3

**CA ELD Standards**: ELD.PI.2.1, 2, 4, 10, 12; ELD.PII.2.1-7

### **Related Model School Library Standards:**

2-1.3g: Identify the parts of a book (print and digital): table of contents, glossary, index, and dedication.

2-1.4c: Connect prior knowleddge to the information and events in text nad digital formats.

#### **Related Next Generation Science Standard:**

2-LS4-1: Make observations of plants and animals to compare the diversity of life in different habitats [Clarification Statement: Emphasis is on the diversity of living things in each of a variety of different habitats.]

21st Century Skills: communication and collaboration, creativity, problem solving, media and technology skills

#### **Snapshot 10.2 Sixth Graders Create Book Trailers**

Because she understands the cumulative advantage of reading volume, Ms. Edwards ensures that her sixth grade students have many opportunities to engage in independent reading. She has a wide selection of texts available in the classroom, and she meets with individuals regularly to discuss their selections and make recommendations. Knowing that peers have a powerful influence on one another, she has students create book trailers of favorite literature that serve to pique prospective readers' interest, just as movie trailers draw viewers into a theatre. Students are given the option to work alone or in small teams if several students have read the same book and wish to collaborate on the project. She shows several movie trailers and students discuss the important features. How long are the trailers? How many individual scenes are used? What is their purpose? Is the purpose realized? If so, how? What techniques are employed by the producers? Which techniques did they, the viewers, find effective? What movies do they want to see as a result of viewing the trailers? Why? She also reminds students of the available technology in the classroom; the students have used the digital cameras and moviemaking software for other projects. Each student or team of students begins by brainstorming the appealing aspects of their selected book and they think about how they might convince their peers that the book is worth reading. Then, after instruction and plentiful examples, they develop story boards, plans to guide production, and they write a script. Students keep in mind that the intent of the book trailer is to inspire others, including peers around the globe, to read the book. They consider the images, sound, and language they will use as well as the organization and presentation, always with their audience in mind. They film, download images from the Internet (careful to avoid copyright violations), add text, and include

an opening screen and a credit roll. They share their first draft with the teacher and take advantage of feedback to revise, edit, and polish their work. Over several days, the book trailers are shared. Students applaud one another's work. Book trailers are kept in an electronic file on class computer for occasional viewing by peers when they are ready to select their next book for independent reading. They are also posted online so the students' recommendations can be accessed by other students, parents, and a global audience. They are clearly labeled by genre, discipline, and age span.

CA CCSS for ELA/Literacy: RL.6.2; W.6.6; SL.6.2; SL.6.4; SL.6.5; SL.6.6; L.6.1; L.6.2 Related Model School Library Standards:

- 6-3.3a: Choose an appropriate format to produce, communicate, and present information.
- 6-4.3a: Demonstrate a variety of methods to engage the audience when presenting information.

21st Century Skills: communication and collaboration, creativity, problem solving, media and technology skills, global competence

## **Snapshot 10.3 An Eleventh Grader Creates Online Museum**

As part of their study of U.S. foreign policy since World War II, students in an eleventh grade history class select a topic for independent research. One student selects the Cold War and gathers and reviews relevant information from multiple authoritative print and digital sources, including those from outside the U.S. to ensure a variety of perspectives. Based on past instructional input and experiences, she critically analyzes the materials for bias and then makes decisions about resources to use and key information to report. The student then develops an online museum exhibit designed to answer the question, "What weapons were most successful in waging the Cold War?" Her exhibit includes a variety of virtual artifacts, including declassified Department of State documentation, Presidential Executive Orders, and archival images and video clips from the National Archives. The student writes brief texts about each of the artifacts, which can be accessed by clicking on an icon she posts in the museum. Each event is briefly described, cited in detail, and linked backed to its original source. The museum is formally presented to peers, accompanied by a narrative report that explains her rationale for including each of sources, and reasons for excluding other possible sources, organized as a written argument, and posted on the website for classmates to read and comment.

CA CCSS for ELA/Literacy: SL.11-12.5; RH.11-12.2; RH.11-12.7; WHST.11-12.7

#### **Related Model School Library Standards:**

- 9-12, 2.2e. Use systematic strategies and technology tools to organize and record information
- 9-12, 3.3d: Produce media efficiently and appropriately to communicate a message to an audience.

### Related CA History-Social Science Content Standards:

11.9. Students analyze U.S. foreign policy since World War II11.9.2 Understand the role of military alliances, including NATO and SEATO, in deterring communist aggression and maintaining security during the Cold War.

- 11.9.3 Trace the origins and geopolitical consequences (foreign and domestic) of the Cold War and containment policy, including the following:
  - The era of McCarthyism, instances of domestic Communism (e.g., Alger Hiss) and blacklisting
  - The Truman Doctrine
  - The Berlin Blockade
  - The Korean War
  - The Bay of Pigs invasion and the Cuban Missile Crisis
  - Atomic testing in the American West, the "mutual assured destruction" doctrine, and disarmament policies
  - The Vietnam War
  - Latin American policy
- 11.9.5 Analyze the role of the Reagan administration and other factors in the victory of the West in the Cold War.

**21st Century Skills**: communication and collaboration, creativity, problem solving, media and technology skills, information literacy, self-direction

#### **Works Cited**

- Anderson, Steven. 2012. *How to Create Social Media Guidelines for Your School.*Edutopia. Accessed August 18, 2013. <a href="http://www.edutopia.org/how-to-create-social-media-guidelines-school">http://www.edutopia.org/how-to-create-social-media-guidelines-school</a>.
- California Department of Education. 2010. *Model School Library Standards for California Public Schools Kindergarten Through Grade Twelve*. Sacramento: California Department of Education.
- California Department of Education. 2011a. *A Blueprint for Great Schools*. Sacramento: California Department of Education.
- California Department of Education. 2011b. Family Engagement Framework: A Tool for California School Districts. Transition Advisory Team Report. Sacramento:

  California Department of Education.
- California Department of Education. 2013a. *California Career Technical Education Model Curriculum Standards, Grades Seven Through Twelve*. Sacramento: California Department of Education.
- California Department of Education. 2013b. California Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts and Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science, and Technical Subjects. Sacramento: California Department of Education.
- Davis, Trina, Mila Fuller, Sharnell Jackson, Joyce Pittman, and James Sweet. 2007. *A National Consideration of Digital Equity*. Washington, DC: International Society for Technology in Education.

  http://www.k12hsn.org/files/research/Technology/national-consideration-DE.pdf
- Hart Research Associates. 2013. It Takes More than a Major: Employer Priorities for College Learning and Student Success. Washington, DC: Author.
  - http://www.aacu.org/leap/documents/2013\_EmployerSurvey.pdf
- International Reading Association. 2009. *New Literacies and 21st-Century Technologies*. Newark, DE: Author.
- Kim, Helen S., and Michael L. Kamil. 2003. "Reading Electronic and Multimedia Documents." In A. Sweet & C. Snow (eds.), *Rethinking Reading Comprehension*, 166–175. New York: Guilford.

- Lopez, Omar. 2010. "The Digital Learning Classroom: Improving English Language Learners' Academic Success in Mathematics and Reading Using Interactive Whiteboard Technology." *Computers and Education* 54 (4): 901–915.
- Mansilla, Veronica B., and Anthony Jackson. 2011. *Educating for Global Competence:*Preparing Our Youth to Engage the World. The Asia Society.
- Mayer, Richard. 1997. "Multimedia Learning: Are We Asking the Right Questions?" Educational Psychologist 32: 1–19.
- National Association for the Education of Young Children and the Fred Rogers Center for Early Learning and Children's Media at San Vincent College. 2012.

  Technology and Interactive Media as Tools in Early Childhood Programs Serving Children from Birth through Age 8. Joint Position Statement. Washington, DC: Author.
- National Telecommunications and Information Administration called, "Falling through the Net." (NTIA 1995, 1998, 1999, 2000)
- Partnership for 21st Century Skills, The. 2011. *Overview: Framework for 21st Century Learning*. <a href="http://www.p21.org/storage/documents/1">http://www.p21.org/storage/documents/1</a>. <a href="p21">p21</a> framework 2-pager.pdf.
- Partnership for 21st Century Skills, The. 2011. *P21 Common Core Toolkit: A Guide to Aligning the Common Core State Standards with the Framework for 21st Century Skills*. <a href="http://www.p21.org/storage/documents/P21CommonCoreToolkit.pdf">http://www.p21.org/storage/documents/P21CommonCoreToolkit.pdf</a>.
- Partnership for 21st Century Skills, The. 2009. *P21 Framework Definitions*. <a href="http://www.p21.org/storage/documents/P21\_Framework\_Definitions.pdf">http://www.p21.org/storage/documents/P21\_Framework\_Definitions.pdf</a>.
- Payton, Fay C. 2003. "Rethinking the Digital Divide." *Communications of the Association for Computing Machinery* 46 (6): 89–91.
- National Research Council. 2012. Education for Life and Work: Developing Transferable Knowledge and Skills in the 21st Century. Committee on Defining Deeper Learning and 21st Century Skills, James W. Pellegrino and Margaret L. Hilton, Editors. Washington, DC: The National Academies Press.
- Project Tomorrow. 2013. From Chalkboards to Tablets: The Digital Conversion of the K-12 Classroom.
  - http://www.tomorrow.org/speakup/pdfs/SU12EducatorsandParents.pdf.

- Sung, Eunmo, and Richard E. Mayer. 2012. "When Graphics Improve Liking But Not Learning From Online Lessons." *Computers in Human Behavior* 28 (5): 1618–1625.
- Trilling, Bernie, and Charles Fadel. 2009. 21st Century Skills: Learning for Life in Our Times. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass.
- Trotter, Andrew. "Digital Divide 2.0." *Education Week.* September 12, 2007. <a href="http://www.edweek.org/dd/articles/2007/09/12/02divide.h01.html">http://www.edweek.org/dd/articles/2007/09/12/02divide.h01.html</a>.
- United States Department of Education. 2009/10. Evaluation of Evidence-Based

  Practices in Online Learning: A Meta-Analysis and Review of Online Learning

  Studies. <a href="http://www2.ed.gov/rschstat/eval/tech/evidence-based-practices/finalreport.pdf">http://www2.ed.gov/rschstat/eval/tech/evidence-based-practices/finalreport.pdf</a>.
- Yopp, Hallie K., and Ruth H. Yopp. 2014. *Literature-Based Reading Activities: Engaging Students in Literary and Informational Text* (6th ed.). Boston: Allyn and Bacon.
- Zieger, Laura B., and Jennifer Tan. 2012. "Improving Parent Involvement in Secondary Schools through Communication Technology." *Journal of Literacy and Technology* 13 (1): 30–54.
  - http://www.literacyandtechnology.org/uploads/1/3/6/8/136889/jlt\_vol13\_2\_zieger\_tan.pdf.